RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 13th November, 1986
22 Kartika 1908 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Missing of uniforms means for Black Cat Commandos

†141. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL: †

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 100 uniforms of the black cat commandos were found missing from the consignment on its arrival at Delhi from Gwalior sometime in August, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the outcome of the inquiry made by Government into the missing uniforms which were meant for the black cat commandos, stating whether Government suspected their diversion into the hands of anti-national and secessionist elements; and

(d) what action has been taken/is proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) There are no black cat commandos as such. However, a consignment of 29 bundles containing Black Dangries fabricated by Family Welfare Centre, BSF Academy, Tekanpur for use of National Security Guard personnel was booked with the Railways from Gwalior from New Delhi on 1st. August, 1986. On 9th August, 1986 at the time of delivery at New Delhi Railway Station, two bundles containing 92 Dangries were found short. A report to this effect was lodged with the Railway Police, New Delhi Railway Station. All necessary precautions have been taken to guard against any possible misuse. Action is also being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Sir, the hon. Ministries has said in the answer about 92 dangries which are uniforms for, what is properly known as, black cat commandos. In the news item of the Indian Express dated 29th October, 1986, it is said that these commandos undergo special training before being posted at sensitive places and they provide protection in the capital to top VIPs. Now, 92 dangries or uniforms which started from Gwalior are missing. I want to know the result of the investigation in regard to the theft which is alleged to have taken place. Has anybody been caught and what is the latest information about this? Sir, this is a very serious matter.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, after the two bundles containing 92 dangries were found to be short delivered at New Delhi Station.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You seem to be greatly exercised over this. Let the Minister reply.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM:...after preliminary investigations and attempts to trace the bundles, a complaint was lodged with the GRP. The case has been registered and it is under investigation. We have not yet apprehended any one in connection with this case.

SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Does the Government contemplate to change the uniform because the stolen 92 uniforms may create trouble? Are you contemplating to bring in some change in the commando's uniform itself?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The change in the uniform may not solve

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri J. P. Goyal.

the problem, because these are made of ordinary cloth and the uniforms are quite visible. Therefore, if somebody wants to imitate the uniform, he can do so even if the uniform is changed. So, what we are trying to do is, although we are not taking it lightly, we are introducing a system—I hope you will not require me to disclose its particulars—by which the use of the uniform in any particular day is distinguishable for that day.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Do they change their uniform everyday?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give you an opportunity to put a supplementary. Yes, Mr. Virendra Verma.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी क्या यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जिस समय ये ग्वालियर से भेजी गयीं थीं, तो उस समय ग्वालियर स्टेशन पर क्या इनकी पूरी गिनती ठीक प्रकार से कर ली गयी थी ? ये रास्ते में मिसिंग हुई या ग्वालियर से ही उनको कम भेजा गया था ?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: ग्वालियर में ऐसी गड़बड़ी नहीं होती ।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, according to the present information, it is claimed that the bundles were accounted for and booked at Gwalior. The short delivery was discovered at the station of destination, namely, New Delhi, but whether the bundles were properly accounted for and booked at Gwalior is also a matter which is under investigation.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I want to know whether the Minister has thought of a way of secret identification of the uniforms which are issued to the particular commando. And whether you have any system by which you can make out which had been issued to whom and whether they have come back into circulation. Have you any method of keeping track of what you have issued?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, as I told this House earlier, we have devised a method by which use of uniform on any particular day can be kept in check and accounted for. I would request that the details be not asked of me in this House.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: May I know why Gwalior was selected for stitching these uniforms? Is it because the tailors of Gwalior are the best in the country?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Because Mr. Vajpayee contested from that place.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Gwalior was selected for the reason that the Family Welfare Centre of BSF Academy at Takenpur near Gwalior has got tailoring facilities. It appears the selection was good as some Opposition Members can support us for that reason.

श्री शरद यादव : मान्यवर, मैं मन्त्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि देश की जो सुरक्षा व्यवस्था है उस में भ्रष्टाचार बहुत बढ़ गया है। इसका सीधा मतलब इसी घटना से है कि जिन लोगों ने वर्दी को निकालने का काम किया, मिस करवाने का काम किया उन्हें मालूम था कि यह वर्दी कहां बन रही है और किस गाड़ी से आ रही है । मेरा कहने का मतलब है कि मन्त्री जी इस बात पर ध्यान रखेंगे कि देश में जो भ्रष्टाचार हैं वह आपकी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था में भी घुस गया है जिससे आपकी जान को भी खतरा है और देश भी खतरे में फंस गया है ।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it would not be proper on my part to admit anything when the case is under investigation. After the investigation is completed, we can certainly look into these aspects.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: These National Security Guard personnel are employed for very important and sensitive jobs and when these uniforms meant for these people are to be carried, why should the Government not bring them in special trucks with proper protection? After all, Gwalior is not very far away from Delhi. Or Government can get them stitched here in Delhi under proper supervision. Why should Government take such a risk when these missing uniforms can be misused also?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, some of these uniforms were for some time being got ready in Delhi. As I said earlier, the facilities at BSF Academy are quite good and we thought we will stitch them there. I have taken note of the suggestion of the hon. Member that we should devise more foolproof ways to transport these uniforms from Gwalior to Delhi.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Provision of computerised information to the entrepreneurs

1142. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: † SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CSIR-DGTD propose to provide computerised information for entrepreneurs, both Indian and foreign on a gratis basis as has been reported in the 'Times of India' of 10th October, 1986; and

(b) whether Government also propose to organise similar service for Research and Development information discoveries and patents, etc. developed by ICAR/ICMR/CSIR/AEC and other public sector, semi-Government and Government organisations and make research and development effort of science and technology institutes need-based and fruitful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The Technology Policy Implementation Committee (TPIC) set up by the Government has recommended establishment of an Industrial Technology Data Bank (ITDB) to provide technological information to entrepreneurs on a commercial basis. Government is considering the provision of such information throough a computerised system.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Sir, as per the Minister's reply, the Technology Policy-Implementation Committe set up by the Government has recommended establishment of an Industrial Technology Data Bank to provide technological information on commercial basis and Government is considering the provision of such information through a computerised system. Sir, however, it has been reported in newspapers on 10th October that it has already been considered. Why should the Minister conceal facts and say it is being considered? Are we not entitled to the information?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: No, Sir, there has ben no attemps to conceal. It is being considered in the sense of implementing it. We have to implement it. Introducing the computerised system of collecting and analysing the information is under implementation.

SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: I would like to ask the Minister when the Technology Policy Implementation Committee recommended it, how long it has been under consideration? In view of the importance of the facility, will the Minister assure us that an early action will be taken to provide the facility to medium scale entrepreneurs? Will it be extended to small-scale entrepreneurs also?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: I cannot recollect about the timing. The report came last year and we have every intention to carry it out as early as possible. The service is intended for all clientele including big industries and small-scale industries. In fact, any client who wants this information will have access to it.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, while all of us are emphasixing on industrial technology and providing information and data banks for industrial output, we seem to be neglecting the agricultural industry. I want to know if the Minister is considering introducing agricultural tech-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Talari Manohar.